

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NO. EV361227939US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: September 27, 2004

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER OR FEE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" SERVICE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10 ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

Lisa M. Tinnirella
(TYPED NAME OF PERSON MAILING PAPER OR FEE)

(SIGNATURE OF PERSON MAILING PAPER OR FEE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of

JOHN J. TOBEN, et al.

Mail Stop Amendment COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 25, 2004, the time for response extending to September 27, 2004 (September 25, 2004 being a Saturday), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the existing rejection in view of Applicants' amendments and remarks below.

11/18/2004 DLILES 00000033 130235

1 685946

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3, and 5-20 are allowable, and an early action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below to expedite resolution of any issues that the Examiner may consider to remain unresolved. In particular, should a Notice of Allowance not be forthcoming, and if an Examiner's Amendment would place the case in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned for a telephonic interview while the outstanding issues are fresh in the mind of the Examiner.

It is believed that no additional fees or deficiencies in fees are owed. However, authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 13-0235 in the event any additional fees are owed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas J. Tuccillo

Registration No. 44,322

Attorney for Applicants

McCORMICK, PAULDING & HUBER LLP

CityPlace II, 185 Asylum Street Hartford, CT 06103-4102

Tel: (860) 549-5290

Fax: (413) 733-4543